

B) IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for the remediation of an anaerobic wastewater treatment system by the temporary conversion of the anaerobic wastewater treatment system to an aerobic wastewater treatment system, such system being comprised of at least one septic tank having an outlet, a distribution system and a leaching system, wherein effluent drains from the tank outlet through the distribution system and to the leaching system, which comprises:

a positive pressure pump having an output, the positive pressure pump being electrically actuated to start and stop the introduction of oxygen wastewater into the treatment system and to increase and reduce the proliferation of aerobic bacteria contained therein;

a tube having a first end and a second end, the first end being attached to the pump output; and

an air stone being attached to the second tube end;

wherein, when the air stone is introduced into a portion of the system, the pump is used to deliver air through the tube to the air stone so as to introduce air into the effluent and allow aerobic bacteria to proliferate throughout the system, including within the septic tank, within the distribution system and within the leaching system.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a plurality of such pumps, tubes or air stones, and combinations thereof are used for the remediation of the anaerobic wastewater treatment system by temporary conversion to an aerobic wastewater treatment system.

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the plurality of pumps, tubes or air stones are distributed at different locations throughout the anaerobic wastewater treatment system.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the pump is electrically actuated and includes internal electrical connections that are packaged within a weatherproof container.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the tube is made from a vinyl material.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 including means for introducing one or more materials selected from the group consisting of anaerobic bacteria, aerobic bacteria, facultative bacteria, enzymes and vitamins to the system.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the apparatus is utilized with at least one holding tank distribution system and the leaching system comprise structure selected from the group consisting of a dry well, a seepage pit, or a distribution box and an absorption field.

9. (Previously presented) An apparatus for the temporary conversion of an anaerobic wastewater holding tank to an aerobic wastewater treatment process and to control odor, such anaerobic wastewater holding tank being comprised of at least one mobile and/or portable holding tank, which comprises:

a positive pressure pump having an output, the positive pressure pump being electrically actuated to start and stop the introduction of oxygen

wastewater into the at least one holding tank and to increase and reduce the proliferation of aerobic bacteria contained therein;
a tube having a first end and a second end, the first end being attachable attached to the pump output; and
an air stone being attached to the second tube end;
wherein, when the air stone is introduced into the at least one holding tank, the pump is used to deliver air through the tube to the air stone so as to introduce air into the effluent and allow aerobic bacteria to proliferate.

10. (Currently amended) A method for the remediation of an anaerobic wastewater treatment system by temporary conversion of the anaerobic wastewater treatment system to an aerobic wastewater treatment system, the anaerobic system being comprised of at least one septic tank having an outlet, a distribution system and a leaching system, wherein effluent drains from the tank outlet through the distribution system and to the leaching system, which comprises the steps of providing a positive pressure pump having an output, the positive pressure pump being electrically actuated to start and stop the introduction of oxygen wastewater into the treatment system and to increase and reduce the proliferation aerobic bacteria contained therein;
providing a tube having a first end and a second end, the first end being attached to the pump output,
providing an air stone that is attached to the second tube end,
introducing the air stone into a portion of the system, and
using the pump to deliver air through the tube to the air stone,

wherein air is introduced into the effluent to allow aerobic bacteria to proliferate therewithin throughout the system, including within the septic tank, within the distribution system and within the leaching system.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the pump, tube and air stone providing steps include providing a plurality of such pumps, tubes or air stones, and combinations thereof, are distributed throughout the system and the pump using step includes using the plurality of such pumps, tubes or air stones, and combinations thereof, for the remediation of the system by temporary conversion to an aerobic wastewater treatment system.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the plurality of pumps, tubes or air stones providing steps include distributing the plurality of such pumps, tubes or air stones at different locations throughout the system.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the pump providing step includes providing a pump that is electrically actuated and includes internal electrical connections that are packaged within a weatherproof container.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the tube providing step includes providing tube that is made from a vinyl material.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 including the step of introducing one or more materials from the group consisting of anaerobic bacteria, aerobic bacteria, facultative bacteria, enzymes and vitamins to the system.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the method is adapted for use with ~~at least one holding tank~~ a wastewater treatment system wherein

the distribution system and the leaching system comprise structure selected from the group consisting of a dry well, a seepage pit, or a distribution box and an absorption field.

18. (Previously presented) A method for the temporary conversion of an anaerobic wastewater treatment holding tank to an aerobic wastewater treatment process and to control odor, the anaerobic wastewater treatment holding tank being comprised of at least one mobile and/or portable holding tank, which comprises the steps of

providing a positive pressure pump having an output, the positive pressure pump being electrically actuated to start and stop the introduction of oxygen wastewater into the at least one holding tank and to increase and reduce the proliferation aerobic bacteria contained therein;

providing a tube having a first end and a second end, the first end being attached to the pump output,

providing an air stone that is attached to the second tube end,

introducing the air stone into the at least one holding tank, and

using the pump to deliver air through the tube to the air stone,

wherein air is introduced into the effluent contained within the at least one holding tank to allow aerobic bacteria to proliferate therewithin.

19. (Original) A method for remediating a wastewater treatment system, such system being comprised of at least one septic tank having an inlet and an outlet, and at least one absorption field wherein effluent drains from the tank outlet, wherein an

accumulation of bio-mat has reduced the flow of effluent through the absorption field, which comprises the steps of

introducing oxygen to the bio-mat,
introducing live aerobic bacteria to the bio-mat,
monitoring the level of effluent in the absorption field, and
stopping the introduction of air to the effluent when the bio-mat is sufficiently reduced or made permeable.

20. (Original) The method of the claim 19 including the step of introducing live anaerobic bacteria to the system after stopping the introduction of air to the system.